



## Butz Landfill Superfund Site

Monroe County, Pennsylvania

### SITE UPDATE

This fact sheet will update residents about the work in progress at the Butz Landfill Superfund Site. EPA has finalized the Remedial Investigation study, which

determined the nature and extent of contamination at the Site. The Remedial Investigation confirmed that the trichloroethylene (TCE) contamination in the ground water originated at or near the Butz Landfill Site.

#### *EPA's tests during the Remedial Investigation showed the following results:*

**Surface Soil:** EPA's 11 surface soil samples from the Landfill revealed that the surface soils do not pose a danger to humans or to wildlife.

**Subsurface Soil:** EPA dug 28 test pits and made five soil borings to find out whether contaminants from the Landfill flowed to the soil beneath the fill material. EPA found no contaminated liquid trickling through the waste. The borings showed that the Landfill material is made up of mostly municipal solid waste including various car parts and other metal fragments.

In 22 of the tests, results showed that the soil beneath the clean fill material does contain contaminants typically found in municipal trash. Although many different contaminants are present in the Landfill, the concentrations of the contaminants do not currently appear to pose a threat to ground water.

**Surface Water:** 14 surface water samples from streams located around Butz Landfill contained very few contaminants. Several locations in the north fork of Reeder's Run Creek, which is southeast of the Site, contained TCE in low concentrations.

At the east end of Mountain Spring Lake, which is south of the Site, EPA found several pesticides and metals. Studies show that none of these contaminants originated at the landfill.

**Ground Water:** EPA sampled five additional

residential wells and found no contaminants in those wells. Four of these five wells are located east of other residential wells that contain contaminants.

The 18 ground water monitoring wells revealed TCE, 1,2-dichloroethene, and vinyl chloride contamination. The main contaminant of concern at the Site is TCE, a volatile organic compound. TCE appeared in every monitoring well on the Landfill. TCE, an industrial solvent and metal degreasing agent, is a suspected carcinogen.

Sample results from 50 residential wells indicate that a plume or discharge of TCE extends approximately 7,000 feet east/northeast of the Landfill and to lesser distances to the southeast, south, and southwest.

**Sediments:** 14 sediment samples collected from the same locations as surface water samples showed that the primary contaminant is Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs). PAHs are a group of compounds used in dyes, lubricants, and insect repellents. Tests indicated that the PAHs are not from the Landfill, but from roadway runoff.

**Risk Assessment:** EPA analyzed its findings to gauge the human health risks associated with Site-related contaminants in ground water, surface soil, surface water, and sediments. EPA found that ground water in some residential wells is contaminated above acceptable exposure levels, although these wells currently have treatment systems. Sampling of surface water, surface soil, and sediments from around the Butz Landfill Site showed no unacceptable levels of Site-related contaminants.

## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

EPA will prepare a Proposed Plan. The Proposed Plan will summarize the results of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study, describe ways to address site contamination (remedial alternatives), and state which alternative EPA prefers.

EPA will notify residents, through a *Pocono Record* advertisement, when the documents are available at the information repository. After EPA publishes the notice, the public will have 30 days to comment on EPA's cleanup alternatives. If the public requests a public meeting early enough in the process, EPA will hold a meeting during the 30-day comment period. After EPA has considered all public comments, it will issue a Record of Decision announcing the final selection of a cleanup alternative.

## WATER LINE CONSTRUCTION

The Bureau of Reclamation, a division of the Department of the Interior which deals with water resources and their distribution, has completed the design for the water supply line. Recently, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (PADER) and EPA signed a Superfund State Contract for the Butz Landfill Site. This contract assures EPA that the state of Pennsylvania will pay 10 percent of the cost of the water line. The Bureau of Reclamation can now proceed with bids for a contractor to construct the water line. The Bureau of Reclamation will amend the existing solicitation and mail the amendment to all those who bid previously.

EPA continues to distribute carbon filtration units and bottled water to residents with contaminated wells. In addition, EPA installed three wells on the property of Mt. Gilead Camp (located a few miles northwest of the Site), from which the new water supply will come. EPA plans to send letters to affected residents to prepare them for the beginning of the water line construction scheduled for spring of 1992. More than 50 residences and businesses, 22 of which now have contaminated wells, will hook up to the water supply line. Residents who hook up to the supply line will need to have their wells sealed. They will not have to pay for either well sealing or water supply line hookup. Residents will, however, be responsible for their individual water usage bills.

EPA expects that once construction begins, it will last from eight to 10 months. EPA and the Bureau of

Reclamation will do everything possible to work with as little disruption to residents as possible.

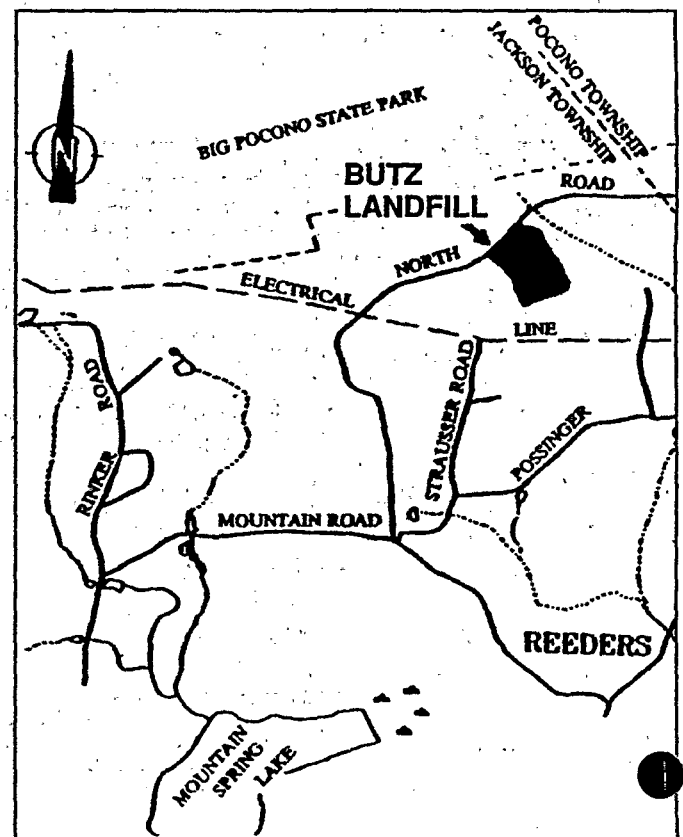
## SITE HISTORY

From 1963 to 1973, Butz Landfill operated and accepted municipal wastes, sewage sludge, and possibly industrial wastes. PADER closed the landfill in 1973 because of improper operation.

In 1986, PADER reported to EPA that residential wells near the landfill were contaminated with the chemical trichloroethylene (TCE). EPA responded to the discovery by supplying bottled water and installing carbon filtration systems on 22 residential wells that same year.

In 1990 EPA issued a Record of Decision explaining its chosen alternative of installing a municipal water supply system. This decision addresses the problem of contaminated residential wells in the area. A separate study was performed on the Landfill to find out if and how the Landfill affected the ground water around it. As mentioned earlier in this fact sheet, EPA will issue a separate Record of Decision to address the cleanup of the ground water.

Site Location Map



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## **TCE CONTAMINATION IN REEDERS, PA**

The TCE contamination found in Reeders, Pennsylvania, which is approximately one mile south of the Butz Landfill Site, is a separate TCE problem, and is not connected in any way with the Butz Landfill Site TCE contamination.

If you have questions about the Reeders contamination, please contact:

**Terry White (3EA21)**  
**Community Relations Coordinator**  
**U.S. EPA**  
**841 Chestnut Building**  
**Philadelphia, PA 19107**  
**(215) 597-6925**

## **INFORMATION REPOSITORY**

Documents relating to the Butz Landfill Site are available for public review at the following location:

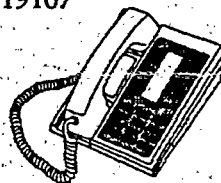
**Pocono Township Library**  
**Route 611 South**  
**Tannersville, PA 18732**  
**(717) 421-0800**

*Hours:* Monday 9 a.m.—2 p.m., 3 p.m.—7 p.m.  
Tuesday 3 p.m.—7 p.m.  
Wednesday 3 p.m.—7 p.m.  
Thursday 9 a.m.—2 p.m.  
Friday 12 p.m.—4 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m.—1 p.m.

## **EPA CONTACT**

Amy Barnett, EPA's Community Relations Coordinator, is available to answer any questions community members may have about the Butz Landfill Site.

**Amy Barnett (3EA21)**  
**Community Relations Coordinator**  
**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**  
**841 Chestnut Building**  
**Philadelphia, PA 19107**  
**(215) 597-6915**



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## **MAILING LIST ADDITIONS**

If you would like to be on our mailing list to receive additional fact sheets or if you have a question or comment about the Butz Landfill Site, please complete this form and mail it to: Amy Barnett (3EA21), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 841 Chestnut Building, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Question/Comment \_\_\_\_\_

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Kim -

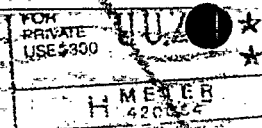
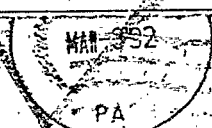
Do you know why  
several County Supervisors  
in Buckingham County, VA  
received the Butz fact sheet?  
Kim  
(3435)

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Environmental Protection Agency  
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